(Full Report on Page Two.)

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 24, 1916.

PRICE ONE CENT.

# TERR!FIC ATTACK ON FRENCH AT VERDUN

Decisive Battle Believed to Be Raging at Melancourt and About Dead Man Hill.

JOFFRE'S LINES IMPERILED

Bavarians Attempt to Cut Off Communications of Troops at Bethincourt.

AMSTERDAM, March 24 .-Flushing correspondents of Amsterdam newspapers today report sounds of heavy firing in the North Sea from the direction of Ostend and Westende this morning. Skippers believe an important naval fight is go-

LONDON, March 24.-German troops have resumed heavy attacks against the French front northwest of Verdun, according to Paris dispatches today.

Following a twenty-four-hour lull, the German batteries turned a terrific fire on the French positions south of Malancourt and around Dead Man Hill. French uns roared in reply all day yes-

It is believed in Paris that the decisive battle on this sector has

PERIL TO FRENCH.

By battering through the French lines in Avocourt wood, the crown prince bent the French front in the shape of a dangerous loop. The neck of this loop is less than four miles wide. German artillery posted on the ridge

side, is sweeping the four miles of wooded plain with a heavy fire. On the southwestern side, Bavarian regiments are striving to cut through

near Dead Man Hill, on the northeast

the intervening four miles, cutting off French forces holding Bethincourt and Dispatches from Berlin declare that

the French are in an extremely premore trenches in the Haucourt re-

The Germans pressed forward south of Malancourt, against the southwestern side of the French salient. The advance further imperils French positions at Malancourt and Bathin-

From Paris comes news of a heavy bombardment of German positions in the woods south of Malancourt and around Douaumont and Damloup. In the Woevre region the artillery ville and Eparges.

French troops occupied a mine crater near Hill 285 in the Argonne.

#### Savage Slav Attack Made on Riga Salient

PETROGRAD, March 24.-Savage fighting is going on at Jacobstadt. eihty miles southeast of Riga, where the Russians, using liquid fire and gas bombs, are battering in the German At the same time, the Slavs are at-

tacking vigorously at Friedrichstadt, west of Jacobstadt and at Illuxt, to the south.

General Kuropatkin's aim, apparenally

is to squeeze von Hindenburg out of this important salient by threats of envelopment, forcing The retirement of the whole German line from Riga to Dvinsk, on a front of 140 miles.

#### Handicap to Germans.

The success of this offensive will remove the German threat against Riga and Dvinsk and handicap von Hindenburg in any aggressive campaign he may undertake on the Russian front.

Despite optimistic statements from some sources, best informed critics here do not consider Kuropatkin's attacks the beginnings of a great Russian of-The spring thaw, due within possibly a fortnight, is expected to impede artillery movements and force a just in the fighting on the northern

When the ground becomes firm again, big offensive movements by both the diermans and Russians are certain to develop. To improve his defensive positions to meet the expected German attack, General Kuropatkin is spread ing out German wedges in the Russian line and moving to capture highway intersections and dominating positions.

For Strategic Railways.

South of Dvinsk, the Germans are counter-attacking vigorously. The onrusn of the Russian troops has temporarily been halted by the enemy's onslaughts. Both sides are battling for the possession of strategic railways of great importance in the expected spring

offensives.

Russian artillery is tuning up along the whole 800-mile front. On sectors that have been inactive for many months there are indications that infantry clashes, similar to these now occurring in the north are about to begin, as a prelude to the later offensive.

In the extreme outheast General lyapoff is meeting and as a present outheast. Ivanoff is meeting a ance in his campa troops from the

New York Dentist Who Is Held in Poison Case



DR, ARTHUR WARREN WAITE.

Admiral Fiske Recommends Establishment of Permanent Chief of Operations.

The elimination of the Secretary of the Navy, to all practical intents, was the suggestio nof Admiral Bradley Fiske to the House Naval Committee

The admiral, over whose appearance Padgett had fought for weeks, the chairman finally consenting, startled the committee with his proposal. He recommended the establishment of a permanent chief of operations who would have authority over the preparation of the entire navy for war. and who could not be overruled by the Secretary of the Navy without authority of Congress.

in every four years and changes the entire strategy of the navy we will never get anywhere," Admiral Fiske We should have a law that said. would make it impossible for the Secretary to change conditions and the

policies of the nevy without appearing before Congress and securing consent." Chairman Padgett clashed frequently with Britten and Roberts, of Massachusetts, "big navy" advocates.

l'adgett endeavored to bring out by cross-questioning Fiske that navy officers should not have authority over the civilian heads of the Navy Department. Fiske said there should not be divided authority. He said he would not place the naval officers over the civilians, but that the chief of operations should have a more extensive au-thority.

"It would take five years to put our navy on an effective basis." Fiske said. "This opinion has been indorsed by every naval officer I have talked to. Our navy will never be as effective as those of other countries until the system is changed. Since 18/7 there has been an increasing realization of the important processing realization processing r ance of "continued policy of strategy. It is easy enough to have a big navy, but not so easy to have a good one. The policy of strategy should be made continuous." an increasing realization of the impor

Britten said he feared that a Secrecould come in and nullify all of effective things done by his pred-

"I have no fear that any Secretary who may be appointed will do any such thing," Chairman Padgett retorted. "It has been done," Britten replied.

### Unknown Woman Dying in Hospital

Police Trying to Find Relatives With Meager Clues Before

She Succumbs. An unidentified white woman is dying

at Emergency Hospital. Te police are bending every effort to locate her relatives. She is suffering from uremic poison and physicians fear she cannot live much longer. Park Policeman Berkeley Inge found the woman early yesterday at Thir-teenth street and Pennsylvania avenue northwest and assisted, her to the hos-

There she declared her name was Clara Wilson, and gave several home addresses, before she lapsed into un-

onsciousness. Lefore she lapsed into untroops has tempoby the enemy's ondes are battling for strategic railways of the expected spring is tuning up along front. On sectors inactive for many dications that infanto these now occurare about to begin, there offensive.

Outheast General h no seribus resisting to clear Austrian morth bank of the

# SAYS PROSECUTOR UNFIT FOR RECORD

Accused Son-in-Law of Million- Congressman Madden Scores aire Victim to Be Taken to rilous Remarks. Tombs.

RECOVERING FROM

Dentist Reviving From Effects of "Sleeping Powder" Taken After Arrest.

NEW YORK, March 24 .- District Attorney Swann announced this afternoon he had forged the last link in evidence which he claims will hold Dr. Arthur Warren Waite to answer for the death of his millionaire fatherin-law and mother.

NEW YORK, March 24 .- Dr. Arthur Warren Waite, suspected in the mysfather-in-law, John E. Peck, of Grand Rapids, Mich., and the latter's wife, will be moved from his palatial apartment overlooking the Hudson today

odged in a cell in the Tombs. Detectives, who guarded Waite closely throughout the night, said that he is slowly recovering from the effects of the lrug he took while they were linking nim with the death mystery. Before night he may be arraigned on the for-

While the watch was being kept at Waite's marble-walled apartment on Riverside Drive, District Attorney Swann went over the evidence in what he asserts is the most puzzling crime story he has ever dealt with

Charges Against Doctor.

The district attorney gave out today he following amazing charges already made in the probe of the Grand Rapids millionaire's mysterious death:

That Dr. Waite, the night before Peck died, "poured something from a small vial" into a plate of soup and also into a cup of tea placed before made by Dora Hillier, the West Indian negress maid: That Dr. Waite, while maintaining a

home for his beautiful wife in the exclusive Coliseum apartments, also maintained a suite in the fashionable Plana Hotel, near Central Park, for a myste-That Dr. Waite apparently had no practice and found time to become the indoor tennis champion of New York, though his living expenses must have totaled \$50,000 a year.

Rearch is being continued today for the mysterious woman who is said to

the mysterious woman, who is said to have slipped out of the Plaza Hotel unanimous consent for while detectives were hot on her trail for an explanation of her relations with the doctor. Though the district attorney does not

(Continued on Third Page.)

#### Allies Reject Plan To Disarm Liners

Joint Reply Received Today at State Department on U. S.

The joint reply of the alifes to the State Department's proposal that merchantmen be disarmed was received at the State Department today.

It is understood from the highest auhority that the proposal was not accepted, the ailies replying that the sit-ustion and conditions of naval warrare did not warrant them in subjecting those vessels to the risk of disarma-

#### SUGAR TARIFF RAISE PROPOSED BY GORE

Would Bring to Treasury Revenue of Over \$100,000,000.

If a plan which was proposed by Senator Gore in the Senate Finance Com-mittee today should be adopted, sugar would bring in to the Treasury a rev-

enue of over \$100,000,000. Senator Gore urged that in addition to existing duty, sugar near an additional half cent customs tariff, and an excise tax of a cent a pound, this to be an emergency plan to last through the Eu-roepan war.

The committee did not act on the sugar tariff question, and will meet

again tomorrow. Senator Gore said his plan would bring in \$60,000,000 additional A problem which members of the com-

mittee are considering in this connec-tion is how to meet the cost of the Mexican expedition if it is prolonged.

#### U.S. Troopers in Mexico Wear Sand Masks

The sank mask is the latest in military dress.

The Mexican campaign through a desert land mothered this invention, which is gay and colorful, not monstrous like the gas masks of Europe.

In fact, all there is to a sand mask is a handkerchief pulled up over the mouth and nose. in bandit style. Red bandannas are the thing.

Texas "Cyclone" for Scur-

DRUG 'RECORD IS NOT A CESSPOOL'

Illinois Member Declares His Colleague's Remarks Should Be Barred From Publication.

A speech inserted in the Congresional Record by Congressman "Cy clone" Davis, a Texas Democrat, House committee today to determine whether the Deis speech was "unfit to be printed

Congressran Mart'n B. Madden, of Illinols. Alled Me attention of the fouse to Mr. Navis' remarks. He declared that they were "indecent and of Congress.

"I do not intend that the Congress "I do not intend that the Congressional Record shall be used as a ceaspool," said Mr. Madden. "Some of the language contained in this speech is such that no respectable newspaper in the United States would print it. Language that the newspapers cannot print should not be allowed in the Record of this House." Are Called Libelous.

The Illinois member added that M Davis' speech contained "vile epithets that could not be published in a news. paper and would be libelous if pub lished anywhere else, but the Rec-"He seems to have washed the dirty inen of some Texas controversy," said Mr. Madden.
Mr. Madden first moved that the speech be expunged from the Record forthwith.

forthwith.

It was suggested by Congressman Garrett, Garner and others that the practice of the appointment of a special committee to consider the fitness of any speech of doubtful propriety. On rare occasions heretofore the House has caused speeches to be stricken from its Record.

Committee Is Named.

Mr. Madden then moved a commit ee of five to investigate the Davis speech and Speeker Clark named Conpressmen Webb, of North Carolina.
Darkley, of Kentucky, Montagne, of Virginia. Cooper, of Wisconsin and Platt, of New York.
During the hubbuh Mr. Davis arose and asked "under what rules were we proceeding and what right have I as a member of the House"
The Speaker informed the Texan that the House was proceedings under its

the House was proceedings under its general rules, and that if a committee were named he would have a right to appear before it in person or by counsel. This seemed to satisfy Mr. Davis.

The Davis speech was printed under the committee of the country of the co unaninous consent for "extension of re-marks," and was not delivered on the floor. It was published in the Wed-nesday Record, and was in reply to certain criticisms made of "Cyclone" by a Texas newspaper writer. Mr. Davis also paid his respects to Minority Leader Mann, with whom he had had a verbal till several days before verbal tilt several days before.

Some of His Language. As asserted by Mr. Madden some the language used by Mr. Davis is re-

milder terms used by "Cyclone" in his milder terms used by "Cyclone" in his reply to his Texas critic were:

"To call this man a child of the devil would be to slander the devil.

"It is supposed that " " he had been hibernating with fallen women and deprayed men in boon companionship with gruesome gangs of gamblers, thuga thieves, and sandbaggers.

"I don't know this man, if man he be; he may be some pusillanimous " "puppet, and panderer for the liquor traffic." "Cyclone" said in the opening years.

"Cyclone" said in the opening para-sraphs of his speech that he had been attacked because he paid tribute to Gen. Nelson A. Miles in a prior speech on the floor. Because he called General Miles a "grand old patriot," expliained the Texas member, a Houston (Tex.) newspaper had waved the "bloody shirt."

The prior speech also attacked J. F. Morgan, the liquor traffic, "mone mongers and sordid trust masters." and the preparedness program. This, he said, "made Morgan's minions and the defenders of the damnable liquor trafic who runs newspapers furious.

#### WORTH GWYNN ROSS DEAD AT HIS HOME

Service Succumbs. Capt. Worth Gwynn Ross, retired,

captain commandant of the Revenue-Cutter Service from 1906 to 1911, died at his home in New Bedford, Mass., this morning, according to a telegram received at Coast Guard headquarters. Captain Ross was one of the first officers graduated from the Revenue-Cutter Service Academy. He was well known in Washington. He was a memper of the Loyal Legion, Naval and Military Order of the Spanish-American War, and the Lotos Club, of New York, Captain Ross was a native of Cleve-land, where he was born April 19, 1854. This father was Gen. Samuel Ross, U. S. A. who was largely instrumental in the establishment of the Revenue-Cutter Service school of instruction.

## Washington Man Injured

PHILADELPHIA, March 24.-Thomas Brennan, thirty, of Washington, D. C., was among four men who were injured, one of them seriously, in a colision between a touring car and a motor truck here today. He suffered a broken arm and bru'ses, and was taken with the other men to the Women's Homeopathic Hospital.

The name Thomas F. Brennan does not appear in the City Directory.

## EVIDENCE AGAINST HOUSE TO DECIDE VILLA TRAPPED, FIGHT NEAR, SAYS CARRANZA; "LID OFF" IN SENATE

## CALLS IT TREASON TO FURNISH ARMS TO VILLA

Senator Lewis Introduces Bill End American Trade With Bandit Chief.

STONE ATTACKS ALARMISTS

not fit for publication on the Records Charges "Sinister Forces Are Working to Embroil U. S and Mexico in War."

> The lid blew off the Mexican sit uation in the Senate this afternoon when Senator Lewis of Illinois introduced a resolution declaring that persons in this country furnishing arms and munitions and other supplies to Villa were guilty of trea-

Immediately after that, Senator Borah presented a telegram from Telegram to Senator Ashurst Douglas, Ariz., telling of the danger to the people there from Mexican troops on the other side.

This telegram was addressed to Senator Fall, who is absent, and by Senator Ashurst. SIGNED BY ATTORNEY.

Both messages were signed by a prominent attorney, D. A. Richard-Senator Sheppard of Texas, presented a telegram from Douglas signed

W. White, which said reports of resterday were exaggerated, but which asked for troops. Senator Stone, aroused by the evident disposition to discuss the Mexspeech rebuked Senators for airing telegrams of this kind at this criti-

cal time. The result was a series of sharp colloquies with Senators Borah and with other Senators.

In the course of his remarks, Senator Stone charged that sinister influences were at work in Mexico, cooperating perhaps with influences on garded as unprintable. Some of the this side, to embroil the two countries.

He said Senators could do as they wished. They could say what they wished. "But just what good is to be acconplished by it surpasses intelligent under

standing." he declared. Knows Situation Is Serious. "Every man with sense enough to come in out of the wet knows the situ-

Senator Stone. "It is critical in this sense that an effort is being made by numerous people in Mexico and numerous sinister influences in Mexico to excite the people of that unfortunate country and to mislead them, to impress them with the dea that the United States contemplates aggression ugainst the Mexican govern-ment, against the whole people, to their

injury.
He declared sincister influences were at work in Mexico and this country to "precipitate a situation the end of which we know not of." He proceeded to read from consular reports to seek to show the complica-tions had been exaggerated.

#### Former Head of Revenue Cutter Reber's Condition Reported Serious

Several Ribs Broken and Internal Injuries Sustained in Fall at His House.

Surgeons at Walter Reed Hospital to day took x-ray photographs to determine the extent of the injuries sustain ed by Lieut. Col. Samuel Reber, U. S A., in a fall at his home yesterday. Coionel Reber's condition was reported as serious today. Several ribs are broken, and he is internally injured. It has not been determined whether he sustained a broken hip. He is attended by Capt. W. H. Moncrief, chief surgeon

vashington Man Injured
In Automobile Accident

In Automobile Accident

Washington March 24.—Thomas

The Moncrief Chief surgeon of the hospital.

It will be impossible to state the extent of his injuries, hospital physicians said today, until the X-ray photographs are developed.

Colonel Reber suffered several attacks of vertigo at his office yesterday. When he went home in the early afternoon for punch he ascended to the third floor over the property of the hospital.

It will be impossible to state the extent of his injuries, hospital in the exception of the hospital.

Colonel Reber suffered several attacks of vertigo at his office yesterday. When he went home in the early afternoon for punch he ascended to the third floor over the property of the hospital. to visit his two young sons, who were quarantined with measles.

He was attacked with vertigo at the He was attacked with vertigo at the head of the stairs, and fell over the banister to the first flow he was

unconscious when picked The investigation rhe investigation - at section of the signal ce Colonel Reher is the hisuspended icomporarily, is a son-in-law of Lieut. Miles. He lives at 1831

#### Decides Against Call For Gaurdsmen

There will be no mobilization of the National Guard on the border at present.

The President and his Cabinet decided today that there is no present need for a call for volunteers nor for the

The question of calling out the guardsmen for patrol duty was gone into in detail.

The Administration believes that mobilization of the militia on the border would embarrass Carranza and make it more difficult to control the situation.

In view of the early encouraging reports today officials view the situation optimisti-

Says U. S. Forces Are Or soldiers under Brigadier General dered Not to Prepare.

With a Mexican army of 3,000 cavalry was similar to a message received and forty pleces of artillery camped within ten blocks of the center of by Senator Ashurst.

Douglas Ayrs, and with American defense for fear of offending the Mexicans, the Arizona city is in grave dantelegram received today by Senator Ashurst from D. A. Richards, an at-

"Do all you can for us before it is too late." said the telegram. Senator Ashurst was undetermined this morning whether to present the or to the War Department. In both quarters, he declared, his pleas for aid have been

received rather lightly.

The telegram was called to the attention of the War Department, which, in turn, advised General Funston of it, turn, advised General Funston of it, without any recommendation. Funston is empowered to handle such situations as he sees fit.

Army Men Not Alarmed. The Carrangistas have had a large garrison near Douglass for some In November it was about months.

Army men are not inclined to regard the situation there as in any way critical, for they believe, even should there be an uprising, the American forces, far better trained and equipped, could easily cope with a vastly larger num-ber of the Mexicans.

ber of the Mexicans.

In the Carranzista garrison are a large number of boys of from twelve to fourteen years of age. Few of them are even fair marksmen, it is said, as was demonstrated in the Villista-Carranzaclash at Agua Prieta several months ago, when several million rounds of small ammunition were fired away with comparatively. Instanticant causalties

small ammunition were fired away with comparatively insignificant casualties. The telegram to Ashurst reads:
"Mex'can general has forty pieces of artillery and 3,000 cavalry stationed ten blocks from center of Douglas. Seven thousand cavalry stationed six miles south of Douglas, We have only 1,800 infantry, 300 cavalry, and four pieces of artillery. Our troops stationed two miles east of Douglas. Mexicans Have Entrenched.

'Am reliably informed it would re

quire one hour for our troops to reach

Douglas in case of night attack. Our army forbidden by Administration from making any active defense preparations for fear Mexicans might misconstruc such preparations.

"Mexicans have entrenched against United States side, and have barbed wire entanglements. We have no entrenchment. Mexican troops could easily repeat Columbus massacre in Douglas on much larger scale and return to Mexico with similar loss. All of turn to Mexico with similar loss. All of

## these statements can be verified by our army officers here. Help us if you can before it is too late." Senator Ashurst said his informant was a responsible attorney. NEW COMMERCE **BUILDING CROWDED**

Redfield Tells Appropriations Committee of Conditions.

The new Department of Commerce building at Nineteenth street and Pennbyjven's avenue is becoming overrowded, according to testimony given attacks as Crowded. according to testimony given as. When to the Appropriations Committee of the Ilouse by officials of the department, and the Ilouse by officials of the department. Members of the Federal Trade Commission have asked for an appropriation for a separate building, because the trade of the committee suggested and crowded, interfering with the cf-ficiency of the force.

Members of the committee suggested that the trade commission ask the Sec.

members of the commission ask the Secretary of Commerce for more room in the Commerce building.

Secretary Redield told the committee today that he did not have it, and that the other bureaus were also crowded.

# EXTERMINATION, IS CLAIM

**Constitutionalist Consul Asserts** Bandit Can't Escape Iron Ring Around Him.

NO NEWS YET OF BATTLE

**Brigand Will Not Permit Troops** to Capture Him Alive, Is Belief on Border.

EL PASO, March 24.-Villa is surrounded and may be engaged by American troops, reports from exican sources stated today.

A message filed by Col. Francisco Bertani after his column had routed Villa's force just east of Namiiupa, in the Santa Clara canyon, said the Villistas were surrounded

by his troops and by United States

Pershing. Carranga Consul Garcia, who made public Bertani's report, stated there was no possible chance of Villa cutting his way out, and that his capture was momentarily ex-

NO NEWS OF PATTLE.

Consul Garcia shortly before 8 a. m today said he had not received any word from the front, although he expected the fighting with Villa to start at day-

Fort Bliss authorities said they had no word from Pershing to indicate that a battle with Villa was at hand o Villa was surrounded. Major Sample, commander at Columbus, stated he had absolutely no in-

formation of any engagement between Pershing's troops and Villa. The army's wireless is now in good working order, Sample said, but early today he had re-

Sample said, but early today he had received no information.

These familiar with Villa's tactics and
his hatred for Americans believe he will
never be taken alive and that his entire command may be wiped out in the
predicted fight.

Garcia said Villa might try to escape
by a surprise attack during the night.

Bertani reported that in the preliminary engagement the Villiatas retreated
to Fl Oso, five miles south of Namiquipa, after losing several killed and
about 100 horses captured.

Got Behind Bandit.

The American troops in touch with the Carranzistas surrounding Villa are believed to be either Colonel Dodd's cavalry column or Pershing's men. who got behind the bandits by a ratiroad trip from Casas Grandes southward.

trip from Cases Grandes southward.

This report of Villa's whereabouts did not exactly conform with the story brought by Garcia Flores, a reputable Spanish business man of Chihuahua City.

Ide declared on his arrival in El Paso that Villa held up a Mexican National train at Monteguma nearly 100 miles east of Namiquipa, Wednesday, Villa and 2,000 followers were seeking American passengers to kill said Flores. He was positive it was Villa in person who went through the coaches. in person who went through the coaches.

It is hardly considered possible that the outlaw's large force could have covered the difficult country to Namiquipa within a day.

I'lores reported Villa said that Gen. Luis Herrera had revolted from Carranza and joined them. On the other hand there is evidence that Herrera is still loyal to the de facto government.

Threw Off Yoke, Report. Other reports say Herrera recently announced he would no longer be dictated to by the de facto government. He was said to have been angered by being displaced from command of the Chihua-

Herrera was reported to have made an anti-American speech at Parral re-Since the rumor spread that he had repudiated Carranza, Herrera told his followers in Chihuahua City that the American troops had no right to be in Mexico. He said he would not join

hua garrison.

Villa, however, according to these re-Brig. Gen. George Bell, jr., commander at Fort Bliss, is one of the few officials here who believe the rumors of Herrera's swing to Vilga. He declined to make public to newspaper men the source of his information.

Ball held a conference with J. O. Crockett, vice president of the Mexico Northwestern railroad, and Consul Garcia, to discuss the use of the line by the American expedition. It is generally believed the railroad will be used to transport provisions, supplies, and ammunition to Pershing's base in the Cassa Grandes district.

Grandes district. Grandes district.

General Bell put out the usual strong provost guard in El Paso, and along the border last night. Heavy patrols were also on duty throughout the night. The local situation continued quiet de-